

Audio File VN20367

Excerpted Minutes: 01:18:10 to 01:51:56

Transcript of Proceedings

Audio Transcription



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Excerpted Minutes: 01:18:10 to 01:51:56

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Transcribed by Megan Wunsch

1 (Beginning of excerpt.)

2 MALE SPEAKER: Uh, we're a little bit ahead
3 of schedule, but that's -- that's always a good thing
4 and we'll get to -- to lunch a little earlier.

5 So we'll -- we'll start doing some questions
6 now. We've got a few still trickling in here, but if
7 you -- if you have any questions, please write 'em
8 down. Megan or Vanessa can come around and -- and --
9 and bring 'em up front. And we'll just (inaudible)
10 many problems here. Let's -- yeah, I won't worry
11 about that.

12 So, let's take a look at some of these here,
13 some easy ones that I think I can knock out right
14 away.

15 One of the questions is, "What will
16 utilities pay for outputs?"

17 I think we're meaning electricity. And that
18 is variable. Not all the utilities are the same.
19 They're -- there are I think a couple representatives
20 in the room from utilities around the state. They
21 might be able to -- to answer this question a little
22 bit better than I can, but the -- the rates have --
23 have been modified more recently. They're lower, more
24 like avoided cost rate.

25 But that -- that varies from utility to

1 utility, so it would be a matter of speaking with
2 representatives from you local utility to find out
3 what they would be offering for biogas generate
4 electricity.

5 And, you know, are they engaged in the
6 project -- project -- the project, yeah. We've had --
7 we've had some conversations with some of the
8 utilities. We've -- they've expressed interest in
9 being part of our proposal, so I -- I encourage you to
10 -- to -- to reach out to your utilities to see how you
11 can work together to put a project together.

12 Do you guys have one that you'd like to
13 attack?

14 FEMALE SPEAKER: I can attack this one
15 (inaudible).

16 MALE SPEAKER: Sure.

17 FEMALE SPEAKER: So I put up those numbers
18 related to the hauling cost for manure.

19 It's -- it's -- well, my 1 to 2 cents per
20 gallon is a very accurate estimation of how much it
21 cost farms to have their -- their manure ga -- you
22 know, gathered up, put in trucks, hauled off,
23 depending on the -- the distance that those trucks
24 need to -- to transport that manure is gonna be very
25 dependent, so take those numbers as simply a back-of-

1 the-envelope calculation, but 1 to 2 cents is a decent
2 estimate of how much that cost is per gallon to
3 manure.

4 Different farms are gonna have a different
5 amount. There -- some will use more water when doing,
6 you know, the washes of their milk parlors and things
7 and some will have less, so I put that up just to
8 (inaudible), you know, give an explanation for why
9 this is important and has some financial value to the
10 farms potentially just simply related to hauling
11 costs.

12 But my -- I had question thinking that maybe
13 my 6.50 per cow per year was too high and it -- I
14 don't think that's at all the case, so -- but again,
15 as you're talking to farms and considering partnering
16 with them, that's something that I would definitely
17 recommend you start a discussion about.

18 MALE SPEAKER: (Inaudible.)

19 FEMALE SPEAKER: That -- by -- the math,
20 about, it is actually -- that's per cow. One -- you
21 have 131 per cow.

22 MALE SPEAKER: (Inaudible.)

23 FEMALE SPEAKER: And I had 650 for a
24 thousand animal unit farm. So that's where -- so
25 yours is actually considerably higher than the cost

1 that I was describing based on a -- a thousand animal
2 unit farm.

3 You have one?

4 MALE SPEAKER: Oh, I'll take this one.

5 The question was, "How will foreign products
6 now currently installed in the United States be
7 expected to demonstrate performance?"

8 Um, first of all, I would -- I would hope
9 that they are actually installed, somewhere, and that
10 you could provide information regarding what sort of
11 operation it's installed in, what its capacity is,
12 what sort of volume it's handling, what is its
13 performance -- by that, I mean if it's a water
14 treatment system, what effluent limits, is it -- is it
15 actually achieving, what sort of pathogen reduction
16 it's achieving.

17 That -- that documentation should be able to
18 be provided and -- and maybe with some contacts that
19 the evaluators could, if they chose, contact to verify
20 some or -- or ask additional questions regarding it.
21 So, I think that there would be the opportunity to
22 provide that information.

23 And, you know, as far as where is it
24 installed, you know, the -- the scale, how applicable
25 is it to -- for example, if it's installed in Morocco,

1 where it's warm, maybe, you know, as opposed to where
2 -- here, where it may have some challenges in the --
3 in the colder clim -- climate, how -- how would you
4 address that issue, those types of things.

5 So, again, it's sort of a depends type
6 answer, but it's also you should be able to provide
7 some information about where it's installed, the scale
8 that it's -- that it's operating under and what its
9 performance is.

10 MALE SPEAKER: So we got one here that's --
11 that's asking about the -- the scale of the project.

12 "Does it [-- does it] have to be as large as
13 what was proposed in the dynamics study? And could it
14 be a single farm?"

15 I think the best way to answer that question
16 is to look at the evaluation criteria and see if it
17 flies. So here is the evaluation criteria section for
18 nutrient management and it talks about the number of
19 farms and the number of animals included, so -- so
20 that should answer your question.

21 If -- if you can -- if you can get enough
22 points using one farm or going un -- you know, less --
23 reducing the scale that was proposed in the Phoenix
24 study and still meeting those -- those criteria, then
25 -- and you get the minimum, as well as address the

1 other aspects of the -- of the evaluation criteria,
2 yes.

3 Let's see. There's a -- there's a couple
4 questions that are kinda related to each other.

5 FEMALE SPEAKER: (Inaudible.)

6 MALE SPEAKER: Okay.

7 So the questions are essentially, "If [--
8 if] the gas reduced would not be used in Wisconsin,
9 does it qualify?"

10 Again, it goes back to that -- that
11 eligibility question. Does the project reduce demand
12 of electricity and/or natural gas in Wisconsin
13 participating -- a Focus on Energy participating
14 utility in Wisconsin. That's the question.

15 If you can somehow design a project that --
16 that has an out-of-state off -- off-kicker, but also
17 reduces demand in a Wisconsin utility, then, yes. The
18 reason I -- I -- I'm a little bit ambivalent about is
19 -- is that, you know, there's -- there's obviously a
20 lot of opportunity with credits outside of Wisconsin -
21 - California, federal credits, what -- what have you.

22 And so the other question is, is there a
23 discussion about a RFS in Wisconsin -- a Renewable
24 Fuel Standard -- in support of RNG or even CNG, and
25 would the current federal RFS concerning biogas and

1 RNG and CNG -- is -- is there a degree of certainty or
2 how -- how much can we -- can we rely on that to be
3 around?

4 We can't answer that. The -- the -- the
5 federal government will make determinations on whether
6 or not certain programs continue. It seems that there
7 has been some success and some feelings about
8 extending those programs, but it's by no means
9 guaranteed and we can't certainly do that at the state
10 level.

11 But I think there are opportunities to look
12 at carbon credits or other RNG related credits in
13 California or elsewhere. But, again, the question
14 becomes if you can put -- put forward a proposal that
15 is -- is -- that describes the reduction and demand of
16 natural gas in Wisconsin, that's where the rubber
17 meets the road for the Focus incentive. I hope that's
18 -- that's clear.

19 Is there one that you guys are looking at?

20 FEMALE SPEAKER: Yeah, I've got a couple.

21 MALE SPEAKER: Okay.

22 FEMALE SPEAKER: Okay.

23 So one of the questions is, can -- can I
24 briefly speak to liquid manure application via center
25 pivot or similar, in light of the recent white paper

1 released from the UW, and how would an application as
2 such be viewed in the evaluation?

3 So, the relationship to -- the -- irrigation
4 is comp -- complicated to some extent. There was a UW
5 study, that the question's referring to, on manure
6 irrigation and risks of pathogen transport, aerial
7 transport, once it's being irrigated out of a center
8 pivot, traveling gun, you know, what have you. What
9 it was found is that there are safe -- safe setbacks
10 that can be used to allow for a manure irrigation and
11 that's prior to any significant pathogen reduction
12 technology being applied to it.

13 So that's a -- you'd have to do a lot of
14 separation of course to get it liquidy enough to be
15 able to go through most of the irrigation systems that
16 are being used out there. However, from an agronomic
17 aspect, irrigating (inaudible) waters or these very
18 liquidy manures, I feel, is a very benefic --
19 extremely beneficial application method for that type
20 of manure, something that we would like to see being
21 used where it makes sense and where there's acceptance
22 of that practice.

23 So we cannot, at the state level, but the
24 local jurisdictions -- towns, in most cases -- are the
25 ones that have initiated these ordinances related to

1 public health, which are banning manure irrigation to
2 be applied this way. However, it's always, you know,
3 been associated with risk of pathogens and the
4 transport and risk to humans and animals and such.

5 So, while I cannot at the state level go in
6 and tell them they can't have those bans anymore, I
7 think by using technologies like this to reduce the
8 pathogen loads, that's definitely make -- gonna make
9 progress towards this being a more accepted practice
10 in the northeast part of the state and other
11 locations.

12 So, personally and as our department, we
13 would highly recommend trying to work toward those
14 goals. Oftentimes, it's the larger farms that have
15 the capacity and the equipment necessary to irrigate
16 that manure so kinda keep that in mind as you're
17 talking to farmers.

18 Another question I just will handle quick
19 is, "Are all NMP's in Kewaunee N-based? Are any or
20 will any be P-limited?"

21 To be compliant with the 590 standard, it
22 is a phosphorus-based standard. So it -- and that's
23 why I spoke to the topic of separating out your
24 phosphorus potentially more so in the solid portions
25 of the manure effluent, keeping nitrogen in the more

1 liquidy ones.

2 That allows the phosphorus to be placed on
3 fields that are often farther away from the farm,
4 harder to get to, have higher costs associated with
5 transporting that manure those larger distances, and
6 so it can go farther and be better utilized on fields
7 that actually do need the phosphorus, keeping it off
8 some of these fields that aren't allowed to receive as
9 much or potentially any phosphorus through a manure
10 application.

11 So the short -- the direct answer to that
12 question is any plans that are compliant with the 590
13 are absolutely phosphorus based.

14 MALE SPEAKER: Before I take the next
15 question, does anyone have a question they'd like to
16 ask in the microphone or should we just continue with
17 this -- these questions, these written ones? Sure.

18 MALE SPEAKER: Matt Cole with ESG. We run
19 three digesters in Kewaunee County.

20 And on the electrical and gas offtake side,
21 two things. Obviously, we're in We Energies territory
22 and they are only paying avoided cost on electricity,
23 but they also have a policy where they are restricting
24 access to their pipeline, so not only can you not
25 really generate electricity but they won't allow you

1 to put your gas into the pipeline regardless if it
2 meets the quality or not. And that seems to me to be
3 a little bit counterintuitive to the Focus on Energy
4 program. Is there any plans to talk to them to
5 address that issue?

6 MALE SPEAKER: Yeah. Thanks. Um, the --
7 the thing that we've noticed in some of our
8 conversations with folks is that the -- the interstate
9 pipelines are far more receptive in talking about
10 selling gas to a pipeline. There are a variety of
11 reasons why the local utilities and some of the -- I -
12 - the -- the natural gas utilities are reluctant to --
13 to take on gas. A lot of it has to do with gas
14 quality, things I'm sure you're aware of.

15 In -- in our conversations, there's been far
16 more recep - receptivity with -- with interstate
17 pipelines. I think that I would encourage a
18 conversation with them. You had a follow up?

19 MALE SPEAKER: Yeah. Yeah. It is
20 counterintuitive considering that the Focus on --
21 Focus on Energy money actually goes to those local
22 utilities and yet we're forced to deal with the
23 interstate pipelines that increase transportation
24 costs, increase compression costs, and yet our money -
25 -

1 MALE SPEAKER: Can you talk into the mic?

2 I'm sorry.

3 MALE SPEAKER: What's that?

4 MALE SPEAKER: Can you talk into the mic?

5 MALE SPEAKER: Yeah, sorry. Sorry.

6 MALE SPEAKER: Yup.

7 MALE SPEAKER: Yeah, it seems

8 counterintuitive that we have to talk to the

9 interstate pipelines and increase all those other

10 costs when, you know, I mean, rate payers are actually

11 paying money to these local utilities and that's where

12 this money is coming from.

13 So, I mean, I've dealt with the interstate

14 pipelines plenty of times. It's just it makes it so

15 much harder. That's one more hurdle, more additional

16 costs, all those other things.

17 MALE SPEAKER: Yup, yup. Yeah. Thank you

18 for that. There -- there will be some -- some folks

19 from Focus in the -- the afternoon session. I'd like

20 to revisit that -- that question and talk about, you

21 know, focus eligibility, as well, in that circumstance

22 because we -- we certainly have had that conversation

23 with -- with the local utilities and the -- the

24 interstate pipelines and trying to kind of square

25 that.

1 So I -- I -- let's revisit that this
2 afternoon. I would definitely like to revisit that
3 and get a -- a better answer than I can give.

4 Any other questions from the -- the audience
5 before we move on here?

6 Okay.

7 MALE SPEAKER: Wait --

8 MALE SPEAKER: So one question is --

9 FEMALE SPEAKER: Hey, Clint.

10 MALE SPEAKER: Yeah.

11 MALE SPEAKER: Hi.

12 Can you explain how you think this math
13 works 'cause I'm not sure I get it? You gotta have at
14 least one 700-cow farm, but a 700-cow farm gets you no
15 points down in the bottom. It doesn't get you any
16 points up at the top. I'm trying to figure out how it
17 is that you actually get to 25 points in -- in terms
18 of your evaluation criteria.

19 So, I -- I suppose if I had a -- a 700-cow
20 farm and some other farm, I'd get 15 points up top and
21 I'd get 5 points on the second thing, so I'm at 20, if
22 -- if I qualify, but I get no more points. So how
23 does it -- can you -- can you help provide some
24 guidance or am I just reading this wrong?

25 MALE SPEAKER: Well, so -- so the idea is

1 that the very bottom section there is the total number
2 of animals that are involved in the system.

3 So, you're right. So, one single 700-cow
4 farm isn't going to be able to get points from the
5 bottom section there. You might be able to get the 15
6 at the top and you get your 5 points there, you're up
7 to 20, you're right, but you still need those
8 additional animal -- animal units to be involved in
9 the project in order to get those points. Does that
10 make sense?

11 MALE SPEAKER: I'm -- I'm just trying to
12 figure out how you negotiate, I don't know, five, six
13 farm contracts (inaudible) before May 1st. If there
14 are say three consortia in here, we're all gonna be
15 running around bombarding farmers who actually have a
16 full-time day job, which is (inaudible). I'm just
17 trying to figure out --

18 MALE SPEAKER: Yeah.

19 MALE SPEAKER: -- how to try and make it
20 happen.

21 MALE SPEAKER: Yeah.

22 MALE SPEAKER: 'Cause like -- 'cause unless
23 you get some ginormous farm, you're gonna have a hard
24 time getting to 25 points or you're gonna have a ton
25 of small farms, which is gonna have enormous

1 complexity, and I just don't see how to hit a May 1st
2 deadline.

3 FEMALE SPEAKER: I'm -- I'll let, uh, Clint
4 speak to the contracts because I think there is an
5 opportunity for there to be some initial agreements in
6 place but not necessarily have gotten a full contract
7 situation established with the farm about what kind of
8 products they're taking back and those kind of things.

9 Having a agreement, contract, potentially in
10 place that would say that they're willing to
11 participate and that those additional terms and such
12 can be negotiated afterward, I think there's
13 opportunity there, given that there could be a num --
14 the kind of system and effluent streams could be
15 pretty dynamic, depending on the project.

16 That said, there are a number of large
17 farms. The goal of the program and this project is
18 not, you know, as we've kinda said before, it's not
19 just a digester. We're really looking for the manure
20 management and treatment aspect.

21 And so these points are there to encourage
22 the volume of manure that's going to be produced by
23 projects to be as large as possible, as -- as makes
24 sense obviously. I mean, there's constraints and
25 sideboards built in there, but -- as you mentioned --

1 but the goal of the program is not just another
2 digester. We want to be able to have the manure
3 management and water quality aspects associated with
4 it.

5 So, I recognize the -- the complexity and
6 difficulty at times, potentially, of getting in touch
7 with the farms. However, we've been doing our best as
8 a group and as a department to also get the word out
9 and there are a number of eager and interested parties
10 out there to date. So -- and not to mention there are
11 a lot of very large farms and a lot of farms that are
12 right on that threshold.

13 So, 700 animal units is a CAFO. So,
14 anything less and you get a few of those that are more
15 in the hundred -- or, excuse me, 500-cow realm, which
16 there are also a number of, and those numbers will add
17 up fairly quickly to that 5,000 animal unit level, I
18 believe.

19 MALE SPEAKER: Yeah, I would just -- I would
20 just echo that, you know, it's possible to have some
21 conditional agreements in place, dependent on -- on
22 success of the -- of the proposal. Excuse me.

23 And, you know, looking at the -- the bottom
24 criteria there, we're -- we're trying to think big.
25 We're trying to attack a problem that has a lot of --

1 a lot of complexity to it. We -- we recognize that.
2 It's not going to be easy, of course. But we're --
3 we're trying to think big and we're trying to get
4 proposals that have a -- a large impact on some of the
5 challenges that we see, in water management
6 particularly, so -- yeah, it's -- it's -- it's -- it
7 will be difficult, yes, to have a bunch of agreements
8 between smaller farms. I mean, that would be a huge
9 amount of complexity.

10 We -- we definitely encourage the inclusion
11 of the smaller farms. In fact, it's required. But we
12 definitely want to see a larger impact, so we're --
13 we're kind of -- kind of thinking big.

14 I think there's another question over here.

15 MALE SPEAKER: Yeah.

16 The numbers don't quite make sense on the
17 second part. If you have 4,999 animal units, if one
18 cow dies, then you get zero points. If one cow has a
19 birth, then you'll get four point. And it doesn't --
20 I mean, that -- that -- that logically just doesn't
21 make sense.

22 MALE SPEAKER: I think that there's some
23 wiggle room there that we can -- we can inject into
24 how we're evaluating a farm. If -- I --

25 (Multiple speakers inaudible.)

1 MALE SPEAKER: I'm with ya, I'm with ya.
2 So, you know, there will be -- there's gonna be some
3 creativity from the evaluation team looking at exactly
4 how many cows we're really proposing. I -- I -- I'm
5 not sure if we're gonna have a real big problem if --
6 if -- if a proposal comes forward and it's 4,998 today
7 -- I could be wrong, but I think that -- that these
8 are kinda just more or less just general guidelines,
9 but we'll -- we'll -- as each evaluation comes in --
10 each proposal comes in, we'll evaluate them.

11 And --

12 FEMALE SPEAKER: (Inaudible.)

13 MALE SPEAKER: So --

14 MALE SPEAKER: Can I do a quick one?

15 SPEAKER: (Inaudible.)

16 MALE SPEAKER: Yeah, go ahead. (Inaudible.)

17 MALE SPEAKER: If the goal is to make this a
18 large project to handle Kewaunee County's manure
19 issue, why not increase the points for the larger
20 farm? Excuse me. There's approximately 95,000 cow
21 units in Kewaunee County. You're only getting 25,000
22 animal units for 10 points. How 'bout jacking that up
23 so the bigger project comes forward?

24 MALE SPEAKER: Yeah. That's kind of a
25 mirror to the comments this -- already this morning,

1 right, where we're talking about can we even get up to
2 this -- the -- the lowest threshold, given the
3 complexity of the agreements we're gonna have to put
4 forward.

5 So, it was a balance between exactly what
6 you're saying. We want to make a big impact and what
7 is reasonable for folks to be able to -- to get
8 together if we're -- if -- if something comes forward
9 that maybe doesn't have as many players in it. So
10 it's kind of a balancing game we've had to play.

11 Of course, you know, we -- we'd want to see
12 -- the more, the merrier in -- in how we're attacking
13 the number of animals in -- involved in a project.
14 But we had to kind of balance. We had to kinda have a
15 reasonable expectation of -- of what would be the
16 lower threshold.

17 But you're absolutely right. I mean, we
18 would encourage a project to come in with more than
19 25,000 animal units involved, of course, but we had to
20 kind of -- had to be reasonable about the lower end
21 and the high end of what we were expecting.

22 SPEAKER: (Inaudible.)

23 MALE SPEAKER: So I think -- oh, you got
24 one?

25 MALE SPEAKER: Okay. I will take one.

1 And also, for those of you that have -- that
2 have asked some questions, I -- I am hoping that I can
3 provide some answers, but Tim Ryan, if he is able to
4 be here this afternoon, has -- would probably be able
5 to provide a little more in-depth answers to some of
6 these questions. So I'm gonna hold off and see if he
7 comes for the afternoon session on some of the ones,
8 but if he doesn't, I -- I can take my best -- my best
9 shot.

10 But one that I can talk about here, "Animal
11 numbers will change over time. Should system be
12 designed, sized for current numbers or is there a
13 growth factor to be included in the design? If so,
14 how much?"

15 And -- again, this is one of those it
16 depends answers. And you certainly want to design the
17 system to handle a -- a modest amount of growth.

18 But that's gonna depend on your consortium,
19 who's participating, what their plans are. And so, if
20 you have somebody that is planning on, you know, a
21 significant expansion in the -- in the next few years,
22 you probably want to design your system to accommodate
23 that. If you are -- you know, nobody is really
24 planning any expansions at this time, you probably
25 want to size it a little bit in capacity.

1 Probably ideal is to have a system whereby
2 you can do add-ons and -- and so by -- you know, maybe
3 by adding a particular filtration system, you can --
4 you can accommodate increases in the numbers that
5 you're -- that you're dealing with.

6 So, but let's (inaudible) how much, that's
7 not a -- not something that we can really say, you
8 have to design it so it, you know, is 25 percent over
9 current capacity. That's not something that we're
10 really looking at. But it is something that you may
11 want to factor in depending on who you have involved
12 in your particular proposal.

13 (Announcement regarding lunch break

14 taken from 01:44:00 to 1:44:43.)

15 MALE SPEAKER: I guess we have a few minutes
16 left. I'll -- there's a few questions I can -- I can
17 knock out real quick.

18 So, one is, "Is how many consortiums do you
19 expect to fund?"

20 So, the Commission allocated \$20 million for
21 -- for this effort. So whatever projects come in, it
22 depends on how much incentive they're asking for. It
23 could be one for 20 million; it could be three for
24 around 7 million apiece, little less. So it
25 completely depends on the size of the projects that

1 come in.

2 We -- if -- if the money is not allocated,
3 say no one gets it, there will be other rounds.

4 There's a part in the RFP that talks about additional
5 rounds. So it will depend on the proposals that come
6 in.

7 There's a question about, "Does the award
8 value remain regardless of the other grants received?"

9 So, there's a section in the RFP that talks
10 about Focus incentives against all other funding for
11 the project and the more funds that come from either
12 private investment or the Great Lakes Funds or what
13 have you, the other funds, the non-Focus funds, the --
14 the larger that proportion, very likely the -- the --
15 the -- the more the -- the better evaluation. That'll
16 be looked at better, the -- the -- so the smaller the
17 portion of the Focus fund versus the entire project
18 cost, the better.

19 You have a question here?

20 MALE SPEAKER: (Inaudible.)

21 MALE SPEAKER: It takes a little bit to come
22 on after you flip it on.

23 MALE SPEAKER: For me, the problem that I
24 see with these numbers of the animal farms is that in
25 order to have a irrigation plan, the manufacturer,

1 (inaudible), you have to have a minimum of 4,000 cows
2 at the bottom. I think you drew this (inaudible) at
3 the bottom for the (inaudible) process.

4 MALE SPEAKER: So you're saying the number
5 of cows on the -- on the very bottom should be 4,000
6 instead?

7 MALE SPEAKER: 4,000.

8 MALE SPEAKER: As kind of a minimum?

9 MALE SPEAKER: The minimum, in order to have
10 (inaudible) plan.

11 MALE SPEAKER: Okay. I mean, kind of in
12 line with the other -- the other questions we've had,
13 you know -- well, that's a minimum. The 4,000 you're
14 saying is kind of a minimum for that -- for that
15 process. We're kind of thinking large. We're
16 thinking big. We're -- we're -- we -- we had to kind
17 of establish a minimum threshold for --

18 MALE SPEAKER: Sure.

19 MALE SPEAKER: -- what we were expecting to
20 have for a -- for a viable project, so it -- and I'd --
21 -- I would encourage you to, you know, to -- okay.
22 I'll hand over the rest.

23 MALE SPEAKER: One thing I point out is that
24 this is animal units, not animals. So, I don't know
25 if you're talking animal units, that you need 4,000

1 animal units or 4,000 animals, but 4,000 animal --
2 animals would come pretty close to that 4,999, you
3 know. And as that's structured, you know, and
4 listening to the discussion, I just wanted to add two
5 cents here, I would agree, you'd need a minimum of two
6 farms in order to -- to get 25 points there because --

7 MALE SPEAKER: There were a point that we
8 say is what about if we is to have one large or 5,000
9 or 5,000 animal units, and 4 or 5, 40 cows or 50 cows.
10 Why not?

11 FEMALE SPEAKER: Right.

12 MALE SPEAKER: You could do that.

13 MALE SPEAKER: That will -- it's much easier
14 to get a contract and will benefit a little one.
15 Instead to have a limit, we can have a farm between 50
16 to 100 cows and --

17 FEMALE SPEAKER: Absolutely.

18 MALE SPEAKER: -- that -- that would do it.

19 FEMALE SPEAKER: One of the -- and we put in
20 the requirement to have to have at least one non-CAFO
21 farm because with this -- we didn't want was this
22 simply to be a project for the largest farms.

23 There's 16 CAFO's currently in Kewaunee
24 County. There are 175 other farms that are smaller
25 than that. So we very much want to assist the smaller

1 farms with their manure management issues, which are
2 often as big, as difficult to handle, as it is for a
3 CAFO, but they often don't have the resources with
4 which to, you know, handle the manure in a very
5 dynamic way.

6 So you could absolutely get to that number,
7 any num -- any different -- any number of different
8 ways, through a few large farms and then a number of
9 small farms, all small farms. I'd love to see the
10 gamut of diversity there.

11 MALE SPEAKER: Okay.

12 FEMALE SPEAKER: One more comment.

13 FEMALE SPEAKER: Sure.

14 MALE SPEAKER: Well, I mostly have a
15 statement. I just want to make a comment in reference
16 to this animal units and stuff. We have to think
17 outside the box too on this.

18 I'm a poultry producer on the western part
19 of this state and we have a tremendous problem with
20 trying to get rid of our waste, so we have to think
21 outside the box and other than just cows. You know,
22 there's -- there's us other livestock growers out
23 there that have the same problems with manure that
24 could be a good candidate for this project also.

25 FEMALE SPEAKER: Absolutely. And that's why

1 it says livestock. It doesn't just say dairy.

2 Obviously, dairy's a big component of the agricultural
3 industry in that part of the state, but we very much
4 recognize that there's hog producers, poultry, lots of
5 other options -- beef, cattle, and whatnot, too --
6 that could obviously be a participant in this project.

7 MALE SPEAKER: Yeah. I think -- I think we
8 have a lot more questions. Still -- there's still
9 some in front of us that we haven't addressed, but the
10 afternoon session is gonna be broken down into more
11 specific parts of energy, water, nutrients, and Focus
12 questions. And we'll have a whole panel of folks
13 available to answer those questions, more than just
14 the three of us here. We'll take one more question.
15 Then we'll break for lunch.

16 MALE SPEAKER: Real quickly with the -- the
17 -- in response to this -- this gentleman's question
18 about the other types of livestock, are -- are there -
19 - are the numbers adjusted or are you using these
20 parameters or what --

21 (Multiple speakers inaudible.)

22 FEMALE SPEAKER: There's an --

23 FEMALE SPEAKER: So the way -- again, it's
24 animal units and so every kind of livestock animal
25 converts to an animal unit number. It takes how many

1 chickens to be a --

2 MALE SPEAKER: (Inaudible.)

3 FEMALE SPEAKER: Well, my point being that -

4 -

5 MALE SPEAKER: Okay, oh -- yeah, that --
6 that's fine. Thank you. That --

7 FEMALE SPEAKER: If you go to the DNR's
8 website --

9 MALE SPEAKER: That answers his question.

10 FEMALE SPEAKER: -- and look under NR-243
11 aspects, and maybe we can put a link to that so you
12 can do some --

13 MALE SPEAKER: What about --

14 FEMALE SPEAKER: -- you can do the back
15 envelope calculation.

16 MALE SPEAKER: -- what about any -- any
17 additional types of industrial waste center that are
18 ending up fee -- land applied? How -- how are those
19 accounted for?

20 MALE SPEAKER: So there's a -- there's a bit
21 of guidance at the end of the RFP on off-farm
22 substrates. I would encourage you to -- to read that
23 over. There's also some data that we -- we have in
24 the studies. It talks about industrial waste, food
25 waste, this kind of thing.

1 We definitely encourage the inclusion of
2 those wastes to -- it increase biogas production. It
3 kind of flushes out the -- the -- the ability to use
4 the gas in different ways. So, there's some guidance
5 in the RFP for that.

6 (End of excerpt.)
7
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1 Certification

2 I, Megan Wunsch, hereby certify that the
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